

LAKE QUINSIGAMOND

WORCESTER

772 ACRES

NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

SOUTH BASIN

RT. 9

N

FLINT POND

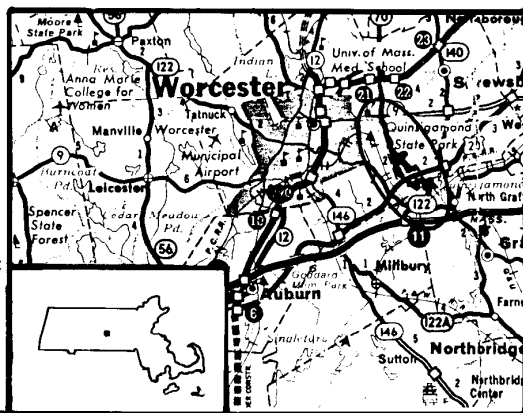
ACCESS

RT. 20

RD.

CREEPER HILL

LOCATION



APRIL 1980

LAKE QUINSIGAMOND

(Worcester / Shrewsbury)

General Information:

Lake Quinsigamond is a 772-acre lake located in the heart of Worcester County between the city of Worcester and the Town of Shrewsbury. There are really three distinct sections: the deep, narrow northern basin, the shallower southern basin with its many coves and islands, and the shallow, southernmost section known as Flint Pond. The deep northern basin averages 33 feet, while Flint Pond averages only 9 feet.

The shore is highly developed with many private homes and several commercial establishments. Fishing, boating, water skiing, and swimming are popular activities. The presence of two state parks, several private beaches and marinas further facilitates such recreation. The large size of Lake Quinsigamond makes it possible to pursue individual recreational interests, particularly fishing, in areas relatively free from the disturbance of other activities. Large ramps offering plenty of parking are located off North Quinsigamond Avenue and Route 20.

Fish Populations:

The lake supports both warm water fish (such as largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch, white perch, bluegills and pumpkinseeds) and cold water fish (such as rainbow smelt and stocked trout). Northern pike and tiger muskies have been stocked here regularly since the 1980s, and ice fishermen routinely take northerns in the 20-pound range. This water has produced a former state record tiger muskie over 19 pounds, as well as a former state record carp over 42 pounds. The lake also receives stockings of broodstock salmon whenever they are available.

Fishing:

Rod and reel angling for trout is best in the deeper, cooler North Basin, the habitat preferred by cold water fish. Try the southern half of the basin, above Flint Pond and north to the Route 9 bridge, for largemouth bass and particularly for smallmouth bass. Chain pickerel fishing should be best in the southern basin below Route 9 and in Flint Pond. The Flint Pond area is favored habitat for largemouth bass, less so for smallmouths. Panfish are virtually everywhere.

Ice fishing is popular here, but because of its large size, this lake is one of the last in the area to acquire safe ice every winter. Be cautious! Try the northern extreme for rainbow smelt (generally fished at night; look for lanterns), which appear to be on the increase after several years of poor reproduction. Brown trout are often taken by the same nightfishing methods that work for smelt. Jigging for yellow perch should be best in the southern areas. Pike can turn up almost anywhere, but Flint Pond is our best bet.

February 1998